

By the articles of the late treaty of peace, the French fishery at Newfoundland, is confined to the N. W. side of the island, between that and the main continent; if they are caught exercising their profession out of those boundaries, their ships and cargoes are liable to seizure, as also if they attempt to cure fish upon the island, which is to be done at the islands of Santa Pierre and Miquelon, all which are ceded to them for that purpose.

*Extract of a private letter from a gentleman in Paris.*

"The return of peace is here made the great ground work of national emoluments; public economy holds up an example which all admire and imitate, and therefore what can result but popular benefits? An expensive war finished, the prudence of the court is exerted in cultivating the fruits of peace. Good management and economy appear in the most minute concerns; such reforms have taken place, that notwithstanding the heavy expences of the war, the interests of loans to carry it on, and the former deficiencies incurred by exigencies, the revenue is respectable. A precise balance between the revenue and the ordinary expences, is all that can be wished by a people enjoying peace, because there is no necessity to establish loans.

"Though a very liberal use has been made of public credit, it has sustained no more depression than what the wisdom of the French councils can easily repair. The people contributed cheerfully; the order and preservation of society rendered it necessary; religion pleaded their necessity, and constituted them a legal debt. The prince was the supporter of his people; he secured their tranquillity and welfare; fleets and armies occasioned vast expence, to which every individual readily subscribed as the price of his safety, his life, and liberty.

"Such an union between a king and his subjects must be infallibly attended with the most salutary consequences; and as the halcyon hour of peace is at last arrived, every means is adopted to re-attain popular ease, happiness, and prosperity. For this great and important purpose, frugality particularly is exercised at the fountain head, as the most certain and effectual remedy against corruption. The premier of the court of Versailles, in his public line of life, like the great Cosmo de Medicis (of whom history so justly speaks) never puts off till to-morrow what he can do to-day.

"Don't run away with a notion that the French are drawing from the English funds; those who have property there, cannot lay out their money to greater advantage here by simple interest independent of commerce or landed purchase. Many excellent regulations are made here in relation to the public finances; the collecting of the royal revenues of lands and quit rents of royalties, is now done by a single company, by which means, an unity of principles and operations tends most effectively to the public weal. In short, most abuses are either removed or removing, and objects of economy have unweariedly engaged the attention of men in power. While these principles prevail, and the king, the ministers, and the public are thus united, the glory of sovereignty, and the happiness of a nation are perfectly secured."

*Copy of a letter from Robert Sewell, attorney-general, to his excellency Archibald Campbell, governor, &c. of Jamaica, dated Kingston, October 8, 1783.*

"I have this morning received your excellency's letter of the 5th instant, enclosing the representation and petition of George Church, master of the brigantine Chance, and have attentively weighed them both.

"On the best consideration I can give to their contents, I think the only way of preventing the difficulty there will otherwise be to draw a line for the admission or non-admission of American traders (which must be fixed some where) is, by allowing the fullest effect to the king's order in council, of the 2d of July, and to your excellency's circular letter of the 26th of September, to the several officers of the customs in this island, founded on that order.

"As to the encouragement given by the order made in council here on the 3d of June last, it cannot be understood to extend beyond the terms in which it was conceived; and as the indulgence thereby granted, is expressly limited in this duration, till the arrival of particular orders upon this subject; and as your excellency's circular letter of the 10th of April, to the several officers of the customs here, is expressly calculated to remove obstructions to American intercourse with this island only, until said and positive instructions should be received from England on that subject; no American trading here under the sanction of those authorities can have been ignorant of their import, nor can any one complain of suffering by terms of which he has himself been aware.

"I think that less embarrassment and difficulties will arise from denying the prayer of Mr. Church's petition, than from granting it under any qualification; and as such denial seems also necessary to the consistency that should be found in the measures of government here, and the dignity of it at home, I do most humbly advise it accordingly. With a due submission, &c.

ROBERT SEWELL, attorney general.  
His excellency Archibald Campbell, governor, &c."

ANNAPOLIS, January 22.

In COUNCIL, January 20, 1784.

By his EXCELLENCY  
WILLIAM PACA, Esq;  
GOVERNOR of MARYLAND,  
A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS definitive articles of peace and friendship between the United States of America and his Britannic Majesty, were concluded and signed at Paris on the third day of September, 1783; by the plenipotentiaries of the said United States and of his said Britannic Majesty, duly and respectively authorised for that purpose; which definitive articles are in the words following:

"In the name of the most holy and undivided Trinity.

"IT having pleased the Divine Providence to dispose the hearts of the most serene and most potent Prince George the third, by the grace of God king of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, defender of the faith, duke of Brunswick and Lunenburg, arch treasurer and prince elector of the holy Roman empire, &c. and of the United States of America, to forget all past misunderstandings and differences that have unhappily interrupted the good correspondence and friendship which they mutually wish to restore; and to establish such a beneficial and satisfactory intercourse between the two countries upon the ground of reciprocal advantages and mutual convenience, as may promote and secure to both perpetual peace and harmony, and having for this desirable end already laid the foundation of peace and reconciliation, by the provisional articles, signed at Paris on the 30th of November 1782, by the commissioners empowered on each part, which articles were agreed to be inserted in and to constitute the treaty of peace proposed to be concluded between the crown of Great-Britain and the said United States, but which treaty was not to be concluded until terms of peace should be agreed upon between Great-Britain and France, and his Britannic Majesty should be ready to conclude such treaty accordingly; and the treaty between Great-Britain and France having since been concluded, his Britannic Majesty and the United States of America, in order to carry into full effect the provisional articles above mentioned, according to the tenor thereof, have constituted and appointed, that is to say, his Britannic Majesty on his part, David Hartley, Esq; member of the parliament of Great-Britain and the United States on their part, John Adams, Esq; late a commissioner of the United States of America at the court of Versailles, late delegate in Congress from the state of Massachusetts, and chief justice of the said state, and minister plenipotentiary of the said United States to their High Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands; Benjamin Franklin, Esq; late delegate in Congress from the state of Pennsylvania, president of the convention of the said state, and minister plenipotentiary from the United States of America at the court of Versailles; John Jay, Esq; late president of Congress, and chief justice of the state of New-York, and minister plenipotentiary from the said United States at the court of Madrid; to be the plenipotentiaries for the concluding and signing the present definitive treaty, who after having reciprocally communicated their respective full powers, have agreed on and confirmed the following articles:

"Article 1st. His Britannic Majesty acknowledges the said United States, viz New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, to be free, sovereign and independent states; that he treats with them as such; and for himself, his heirs and successors, relinquishes all claims to the government, propriety and territorial rights of the same, and every part thereof.

"Article 2d. And that all disputes which might arise in future on the subject of the boundaries of the said United States may be prevented, it is hereby agreed and declared, that the following are and shall be their boundaries, viz. From the north west angle of Nova-Scotia, viz. that angle which is formed by a line drawn due north from the source of Saint Croix river to the Highlands; along the said Highlands which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the river Saint Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic ocean, to the north westernmost head of Connecticut river, thence down along the middle of that river to the forty fifth degree of north latitude; from thence by a line due west on said latitude, until it strikes the river Iroquois or Cataraqui; thence along the middle of said river into Lake Ontario, through the middle of said lake until it strikes the communication by water between that lake and Lake Erie; thence from the middle of said communication into Lake Erie, through the middle of said lake until it arrives at the water communication between that lake and Lake Huron; thence along the middle of said water communication into the Lake Huron; thence through the middle of said lake to the water communication between that lake and Lake Superior; thence through Lake Superior northward of the Isles Royal and Philippeaux, to the Long Lake; thence through the middle of said Long Lake, and the water communication between it and the Lake of the Woods to the said Lake of the Woods; thence through the said lake to the most north western point thereof, and from thence on a due west course to the river Mississippi; thence by a line to be drawn along the middle of the said river Mississippi, until it shall intersect the northernmost part of the thirty-first degree of north latitude. South by a line to be drawn due east from the determination of the line last mentioned, in the latitude of thirty-one degrees north of the Equator, to the middle of the river Apalachicola or Catahouche; thence along the middle thereof to its junction with the Flint river; thence straight to the head of Saint Mary's river, and thence down along the middle of Saint Mary's river to the Atlantic ocean. East by a line to be drawn along the river Saint Croix, from its mouth in the bay of Fundy to its source, and from its source directly north to the aforesaid Highlands which divide the rivers that fall into the Atlantic ocean from those which fall into the river Saint Lawrence; comprehending all islands within twenty leagues of any part of the shores of the United States, and lying between lines to be drawn due east from the points where the aforesaid boundaries between Nova-Scotia on the one part, and East-Florida on the other, shall respectively touch the bay of Fundy, and the Atlantic ocean; excepting such islands as now are or heretofore have been within the limits of the said province of Nova-Scotia.

"Article 3d. It is agreed that the people of the United States shall continue to enjoy unmolested the right to take fish of every kind on the Grand Bank, and on all other banks of Newfoundland; also in the gulph of Saint Lawrence, and at all other places in the sea, where the inhabitants of both countries used at any time heretofore to fish; and also that the inhabitants of the United States shall have liberty to take fish of every kind on such part of the coast of Newfoundland

as British fishermen shall use, (but not to dry or cure the same in that island) and also on the coasts, bays and creeks of all other of his Britannic Majesty's dominions in America; and that the American fishermen shall have liberty to dry and cure fish in any of the unsettled bays, harbours and creeks of Nova Scotia, Magdalen Islands, and Labrador, so long as the same shall remain unsettled, but so soon as the same shall remain settled, it shall not be lawful for the said fishermen to dry or cure fish at such settlement, without a previous agreement for that purpose with the inhabitants, proprietors or possessors of the ground.

"Article 4th. It is agreed that creditors on either side shall meet with no lawful impediment to the recovery of the full value in sterling money, of all bona fide debts heretofore contracted.

"Article 5th. It is agreed that the Congress shall earnestly recommend it to the legislatures of the respective states, to provide for the restitution of all estates, rights and properties, which have been confiscated, belonging to real British subjects, and also of the estates, rights and properties of persons resident in districts in the possession of his majesty's arms, and who have not borne arms against the said United States. And that persons of any other description shall have free liberty to go to any part or parts of any of the Thirteen United States, and therein to remain twelve months unmolested in their endeavours to obtain the restitution of such of their estates, rights and properties, as may have been confiscated; and that Congress shall also earnestly recommend to the several states a reconsideration and revision of all acts or laws regarding the premises, so as to render the said laws or acts perfectly consistent, not only with justice and equity, but with that spirit of conciliation, which on the return of the blessings of peace should universally prevail. And that Congress shall also earnestly recommend to the several states, that the estates, rights and properties of such last mentioned persons shall be restored to them; they returning to any persons who may be now in possession the bona fide price (where any has been given) which such persons may have paid on purchasing any of the said lands, rights or properties since the confiscation. And it is agreed that all persons who have any interests in confiscated lands, either by debts, marriage settlements, or otherwise, shall meet with no lawful impediment in the prosecution of their just rights.

"Article 6th. That there shall be no future confiscations made, nor any prosecutions commenced against any person or persons for or by reason of the part which he or they may have taken in the present war; and that no person shall on that account, suffer any future loss or damage, either in his person, liberty or property, and that those who may be in confinement on such charges, at the time of the ratification of the treaty in America, shall be immediately set at liberty, and the prosecutions so commenced be discontinued.

"Article 7th. There shall be a firm and perpetual peace between his Britannic Majesty and the said states, and between the subjects of the one, and the citizens of the other, wherefore all hostilities both by sea and land shall from henceforth cease: all prisoners on both sides shall be set at liberty, and his Britannic Majesty shall with all convenient speed, and without causing any destruction, or carrying away any negroes or other property of the American inhabitants, withdraw all his armies, garrisons and fleets from the said United States, and from every post, place and harbour within the same; leaving in all fortifications the American artillery that may be therein, and shall also order and cause all archives, records, deeds and papers, belonging to any of the said states, or their citizens, which in the course of the war may have fallen into the hands of his officers, to be forthwith restored and delivered to the proper states and persons to whom they belong.

"Article 8th. The navigation of the river Mississippi, from its source to the ocean, shall for ever remain free and open to the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States.

"Article 9th. In case it should so happen that any place or territory belonging to Great-Britain or to the United States, should have been conquered by the arms of either from the other, before the arrival of the said provisional articles in America, it is agreed, that the same shall be restored without difficulty, and without requiring any compensation.

"Article 10. The solemn ratifications of the present treaty, expedited in good and due form, shall be exchanged between the contracting parties in the space of six months, or sooner if possible, to be computed from the day of the signature of the present treaty. In witness whereof, we the undersigned, their ministers plenipotentiary, have in their name, and in virtue of our full powers, signed with our hands the present definitive treaty, and caused the seals of our arms to be affixed thereto.

(L. S.) D. HARTLEY, (L. S.) JOHN ADAMS,  
(L. S.) B. FRANKLIN,  
(L. S.) JOHN JAY."

AND WHEREAS the United States in Congress assembled did, on the 14th day of January 1784, approve, ratify and confirm, the definitive articles aforesaid, in the words following:

"And We the United States in Congress assembled, having seen and duly considered the definitive articles aforesaid, did, by a certain act under the seal of the United States, bearing date this 14th day of January, 1784, approve, ratify and confirm the same, and every part and clause thereof, engaging and promising, that we would sincerely and faithfully perform and observe the same, and never suffer them to be violated by any one, or transgressed in any manner, as far as should be in our power; and being sincerely disposed to carry the said articles into execution truly, honestly and with good faith, according to the intent and meaning thereof, we have thought proper by these presents to notify the premises to all the good citizens of these United States, hereby requiring and enjoining all bodies of magistracy, legislative, executive and judiciary, all persons bearing office civil or military, of whatever rank, degree or powers, and all others the good citizens of these States, of every vocation and condition, that reverencing those stipulations entered into on their be-